5/18/70

Dear Jim,

If you have not heard the good news by the time you get this, we have won what O hope will be a significant victory. To use the phrase you may recall -I believe was incorrectly employed at the time of its fame, when, "we were eyeball to eyeball, they blinked".

"They" are your old friends, the Department of Justice.

I filed a suit against them when they fooled around for a year of so and didn't give me what they wanted very much not to, some of the suppressed evidence of the Ray case (I sent Moo the complaint). Finally, rather than face exposure in court they capitulated and I have it. I think it will do more than remain in my files.

But they were not graceful and they were really unpleasant and they treated me as though they do not like me. Being by nature, if you listen to those who for what I regard as strange reasons do no like me, ~~xxxx~~ a peevish person, I have filed the papers requisite to <u>five more</u> such actions. I am not suggesting that had they behaved as befits people of sensitive and proper bearing and upbringing I would not have filed these actions, but I must confess there is a more complicated one on which I am working that would have come first.

Save one. That one I have delayed hoping to obtain from your office what it has promised for some months. I have established the existence of N.O. police Intelligence Unit files on both Oswald and Ferrie. And one of the best of four young scholars working with me has just completed three weeks at the Archives, a posttime he found rewarding. However, he was unable to pursue the Ferrie-Oswald angle with his customary diligence because he lacked this information. He now has more, not less interest and will be engaged in a tenacious correspondence, so these will still be of use, perhaps in time to help you. If you were to mention it, possible time might be found for getting this to me. During a new aspect of the work upon which he was engaged, assumed after I had to abandon most of my New Orleans interests, he has proved, as I presume Moo told you, that Quiroga was a properly-numbered "informant who has in the past provided accurate information". Which may explain how Arcache got into him for so much, even why he spent so much time with Arcache. Anyway, when this Archives visit was over, I saw no reason to further delay the Ferrie suit, for if it attracts attention and if it produces some of the withheld material (the nature of which is easier to forecast with non-governmental information I now have, little of which would displease you), it might be of value in the suit you still have pending.

In this action, Bud prepared the complaint. However, I have, after a year of quiet effort, also arranged for him to join the eminent J.B.Stoner as James Earl Ray's counsel, so he now has less time. Thus I will have to be my own lawyer in the new actions. In what I regard as your best writing (on which, as I recall, we disagree), the foreword to Oswald in New Orleans, your footnote quotes what I think would be very appropriate in my first opening statement. If you can have a copy made of it for me, I would very much like to use it.

Ray's defense centers around one of my unprintable books. It is sufficient, save for possible technicalities of your trade, synergized by the lusty incompetence of previous counsel, to get a trial. I think we'll do it. Should be fun. Moo has the clipping from the Washington Post on the latest development.

Best to you all,